

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 231150Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2992

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UN
SUBJ: US VETO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON NAMBI AND
US/CHADIAN RELATIONS

REF: A STATE 259436 B STATE 261422

1. REFTTEL A DISCUSSED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BY AMBASSADOR
OCTOBER 21 BEFORE REFTTEL B RECEIVED.
2. FOREIGN MINISTER HAD JUST RETURNED FROM UNGA, WHERE
HIS SPEECH HAD CONDEMNED VETO RIGHT OF PERMANENT SC MEMBERS
AS FORECAST NDJAMENA 2615. HE LISTENED WITH COURTESY AND
COMPREHENSION TO REFTTEL A DESCRIPTION OF USG POSITION, BUT MADE
HIS DISAGREEMENT WITH IT CLEAR. HE PREFACED HIS REMARKS BY
RECALLING FUNDAMENTAL GOC DISAGREEMENT WITH EXISTENCE OF VETO
ITSELF, NOTING WITH REGRET RECENT US VETOS OR THREATS THEREOF
WITH REGARD TO MEMBERSHIP FOR VIETNAM AND ANGOLA. AS
FOR NAMIBIA, FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE FEARED THAT LACK
IMMEDIATE AND VOCAL SUPPORT ASPIRATIONS NAMBIAN PEOPLE
MIGHT LEAD TO QUOTE MARRIAGE WITH THE DEVIL END QUOTE, IE
FORCED COMPROMISE THAT WOULD FAIL TO GIVE MAJORITY POPULATION
FULL RIGHTS TO WHICH IT ENTITLED AND WHICH WOULD THEREFORE
LEAD TO ANGOLA-TYPE SITUATION. FOREIGN MINISTER'S IMMEDIATE
INTEREST, HOWEVER, WAS QUESTION OF GENEVA CONFERENCE,
THE SUCCESS OF WHICH HE BELIEVED DOUBTFUL.

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3. AMBASSADOR THEN TURNED TO BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND

SAID THAT HE CONDUCTING REVIEW AMERICAN/CHADIAN COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. AMBASSADOR WOULD SOON WANT TO DISCUSS THESE FRANKLY AND AT LENGTH WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, BUT FOR MOMENT WANTED FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESIDEN TO KNOW THAT IT USG INTENTION TO SEEK FULL SUPPORT GOC FOR ALL COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS, TO KEEP GOC FULLY INFORMED ALL USG PROPOSALS FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AND TO WITHDRAW ANY PROJECT, PRESENT OR FUTURE, WITH WHICH THE GOC DID NOT AGREE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION WITH THIS APPROACH, AND STRESSED THAT HE TOO VALUED FRANK COMMUNICATIONS. FOREIGN MINISTER THEN VOLUNTEERED THAT IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT USG TOO OFTEN CONSIDERED FORMER COLONAL POWERS AS HAVING INTERESTS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN EXCESS OF THOSE OF US. USG POLICY, SAID FOREIGN MINISTER, SEEMED TO BE CONCENTRATED ON FEW SELECTED COUNTRIES BUT APATHETIC TO MAY SMALLER COUNTRIES SUCH AS CHAD WHERE US APPARENTLY CONSIDERS THAT FRANCE SHOULD PLAY PREDOMINANT WESTERN ROLE. WHILE CHAD IF COURSE PART OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA, AND HAS CLOSE TIES WITH FORMER COLONIAL POWER, CHAD FOLLOWS FOREIGN POLICY OF RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES (A TOUS AZIMUTS) AND MUST BE RECOGNIZED AS SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT OF PAST HISTORY.

4. COMMENT: FOREIGN MINISTER, AS ALWAYS WAS WARM AND COURTEOUS, BUT OBVIOUSLY PREOCCUPIED WITH BROAD UNGA/AFRICAN QUESTIONS WITH WHICH HE HAD BEEN CONCEREND AT UN. WHILE APPROACH ON NAMIBIA NOT PARTICULARLY PRODUCTIVE AND UNLIKELY INFLUENCE GOC ACTIONS, IT WAS NOT COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. BRADF

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